



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, May 30, 2008

## ***Electricity***

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### **High Winds Knocked out Power to 69,000 ComEd Customers in Illinois May 30**

The high winds that swept across northern Illinois May 30 has ComEd reporting 49,000 customers without power in northern Illinois, down from a high of 69,000. A tornado watch is in effect for parts of east-central Illinois through the morning of May 31.

<http://www.wthitv.com/Global/story.asp?S=8402454>

### **Luminant's 545 MW Sandow Coal-fired Unit 4 in Texas Shut May 29**

The unit was shut to fix a condenser tube leak.

Reuters, 19:42 May 29, 2008

Reuters, 19:44 May 29, 2008

### **Calpine's 593 MW Metcalf Energy Center Gas-fired Unit in California Shut by May 29**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage by May 29.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200805291515.html>

### **CDWR's 933 MW Hyatt-Thermalito Hydro Unit in California Returns to Service May 29**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned curtailment of 216 MW by May 29.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200805291515.html>

### **Update: Duke's 337 MW Morro Bay Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by May 29**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage by May 28.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200805291515.html>

### **Update: Dominion's 871 MW Millstone Nuke Unit 2 in Connecticut at Full Power May 30**

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit was operating at 81 percent on May 29.

Information derived from NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

### **SCE's 1,080 MW San Onofre Nuke Unit 3 in California Ramped Up to 99 Percent May 30**

The unit has been slowly ramping up from a recent maintenance outage. According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit was operating at 80 percent on May 29.

Information also derived from NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Reuters, 07:29 May 30, 2008

### **Update: Exelon's 1,093 MW Peach Bottom Nuke Unit 3 in Pennsylvania at Full Power May 30**

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit was operating at 89 percent on May 29.

Information derived from NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

### **Update: OPG's 535 MW Lennox Oil- and Gas-fired Unit 3 in Ontario Returns to Service May 30**

Reuters, 10:33 May 30, 2008

### **Update: OPG's 535 MW Lennox Oil- and Gas-fired Unit 4 in Ontario Returns to Service May 30**

Reuters, 10:33 May 30, 2008

### **ATCO's 368 MW Battle River Coal-fired Unit 5 in Alberta Shut May 29**

Reuters, 11:59 May 30, 2008

### **TransAlta's 353 MW Sundance Coal-fired Unit 3 in Alberta Shut May 29**

Reuters, 11:59 May 30, 2008

### **Salt River Project Announces Plans to Build Three New Natural Gas-fired Power Plants in Arizona to Meet Growing Electricity Demand**

Salt River Project (SRP) recently announced plans to build three new natural gas-fired power plants in Pinal County, Arizona in order to meet the growing demand for electricity within that county. SRP reports 2,500 MW of new generating capacity is needed by 2020 to meet the anticipated growth in Pinal County. According to a company representative, the Pinal Energy Projects do not have a construction schedule and the earliest possible completion date is 2012.

[http://uaelp.pennnet.com/news/display\\_news\\_story.cfm?Section=WireNews&Category=HOME&NewsID=162284](http://uaelp.pennnet.com/news/display_news_story.cfm?Section=WireNews&Category=HOME&NewsID=162284)

### **U.S. Continues to Lead the World in Wind Power Growth, DOE Report Says**

The Department of Energy released the 2007 edition of its annual report on U.S. wind power, which found that U.S. wind power capacity increased by 46 percent in 2007, with \$9 billion invested in U.S. wind plants last year, bringing online 5,329 MW of wind-generated power. The report says the U.S. is the fastest-growing wind market worldwide, leading the world in new wind capacity for three straight years, and 1.2 percent of the nation's electricity supply could be met with the wind capacity on line at the end of 2007.

<http://www.doe.gov/news/6286.htm>

### **Computer Hackers in China Possibly Responsible in Breaches of US Electric Grid, National Journal Reports**

According to a recent National Journal cover story, the former president of the Cyber Security Industry Alliance reports computer hackers from China have penetrated into the information systems of US electric power plants, possibly triggering two widespread blackouts in Florida and the Northeast. According to the Journal, The People's Liberation Army in 2003 gained access to a network controlling electric power systems serving the northeastern U.S. The article also states that the cause of the South Florida blackout of February 2008 which remains under investigation was said to be precipitated by a cyber hacker, and China may have played a role.

[http://www.nationaljournal.com/njmagazine/cs\\_20080531\\_6948.php](http://www.nationaljournal.com/njmagazine/cs_20080531_6948.php)

## ***Petroleum***

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### **StatoilHydro to Delay Ramp-up of Canadian Oil Sands Project by Two Years**

StatoilHydro announced recently it will delay the ramp-up of production at its Canadian oil sands project by two years but is still expecting its pilot project at the oil sands site to contribute between 10,000 and 20,000 b/d of oil in 2010. StatoilHydro expects full production capacity of 200,000 b/d by 2020.

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=62405](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=62405)

### **Update: Vacuum Crude Unit Operating at 100,000 b/d at Valero's 275,000 b/d Aruba Refinery May 30**

A Valero representative told Reuters that a fire-damaged 155,000 b/d crude oil vacuum distillation unit at its Aruba refinery was running at 100,000 b/d following its restart this week.

Reuters, 11:40 May 30, 2008

## Natural Gas

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### Monroe Gas Storage Plans Binding Open Season for 3.3 Bcf of Storage Capacity at Proposed Monroe Facility in Mississippi

A joint venture of Foothills Energy Ventures, LLC and High Sierra Energy, LP, Monroe Gas Storage Company is launching a binding open season for up to 3.3 Bcf of firm, high deliverability storage capacity at its proposed facility being developed in Mississippi. The Monroe facility will use a depleted natural gas reservoir to provide multi-cycle natural gas storage with a maximum injection capability of 445,000 Mcf/d and a maximum withdrawal capability of 465,000 Mcf/d. Monroe expects the facility to be in full service by April 1, 2009.

[http://www.monroegasstorage.com/open\\_season.shtml](http://www.monroegasstorage.com/open_season.shtml)

## Other News

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### U.S. Freight Rail Congestion to Worsen, the Associated Press Reports

According to an analysis of government and industry projections compiled by the Associated Press, the nation's 140,000-mile network of rails devoted to carrying goods by freight is already strained because of the many one-track rail lines; and will get increasingly worse within the next two decades. The Associated Press report finds that multiple setbacks are evident in all parts of the country, with bottlenecks found in important transportation centers such as Baltimore, Southern California and Chicago.

<http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/ap/business/5809285.html>

### Heavy Rains Delay Coal Train Loadings on Western Railroad Shipments Out of Powder River Basin

Rains are slowing production and coal train loadings out of the Powder River Basin as Western railroads are sending fewer shipments. Both Union Pacific and BNSF Railway have reported a loss of train loadings over the recent weeks due to the heavy rains, but have made up part of the missed shipments with 60 extra loadings this month. Of the 110 missed train-loading opportunities during the month of May, 80 were attributed to the mines, in large part because of the weather issues.

<http://www.platts.com/Coal/News/6887407.xml?p=Coal/News&sub=Coal>

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
May 30, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	127.37	131.12	63.49
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	11.81	11.40	7.51

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### FERC Authorizes Construction and Operation of REX-East Pipeline to Transport 1.8 Bcf/d of Rocky Mountain Natural Gas to Eastern Markets

<http://www.ferc.gov/news/news-releases/2008/2008-2/05-30-08.asp>

### Strong Storms Knock out Power to 12,000 Nebraska Public Power District Customers in Nebraska May 29

[http://www.ktka.com/news/2008/may/30/nebraska\\_counties\\_state\\_emergency\\_after\\_strong\\_sto/](http://www.ktka.com/news/2008/may/30/nebraska_counties_state_emergency_after_strong_sto/)

**BP's 265,000 b/d Carson, California Refinery Reports Brief Circuit Breaker and Compressor Trip May 29**

Reuters, 16:57 May 29, 2008

**Valero Reports Brief FCC Snag at its 100,000 B/D Three Rivers, Texas Refinery May 29**

Reuters, 18:45 May 29, 2008

**Global Food Prices Likely to Remain High over Next Decade due to Rising Cost of Oil, Declining Dollar, Increasing Demand for Biofuels – UN Report Says**

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/story/2008/05/29/ST2008052901187.html>

**Ban on Oil and Gas Drilling Near Louisiana Interstates Extended, Louisiana Commissioner of Conservation Decides May 29**

[http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080529/gas\\_well\\_blowout.html?.v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080529/gas_well_blowout.html?.v=1)

**Enbridge Energy Reports November 2007 Pipeline Explosion in Minnesota Caused by Oil Mist Ignited by Open-flame Heater**

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/wire/chi-ap-mn-oilpipelinefire.0.6378191.story>

**Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Orders Partial Shutdown of Two Natural Gas Drilling Operations in Pennsylvania, Citing Violations to State's Clean Streams Law**

[www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us)

**Wood Mackenzie Study Reports Lieberman/Warner Climate Security Act of 2007 May Force Reduction in Natural Gas Supplies, Price Increase for Consumers**

<http://www.axpc.us/enviro/pdf/080529.pdf>

**Bill Barrett Corp.'s Plan to Drill 807 Gas Wells on 138,000 Acres in Utah Halted Pending EPA's Air Quality Environmental Study**

[http://origin.slttrib.com/news/ci\\_9411522](http://origin.slttrib.com/news/ci_9411522)

**South Carolina Public Service Commission Approves Duke Energy Carolina's Request for Pre-Construction Nuclear Expenses on Proposed William States Lee III Nuclear Plant in South Carolina**

<http://www.platts.com/Nuclear/News/7023491.xml?p=Nuclear/News&sub=Nuclear>

**Proposed North Carolina Legislation to Outlaw Coal Mined by Mountaintop Removal – Duke Energy and Progress Energy Claim the Proposal Forces Utilities to buy More Expensive Coal, Raising Cost of Electricity for Consumers**

<http://www.newsobserver.com/business/nc/story/1087504.html>

**Update: U.S. Energy Development Not Confined as Department of Interior Reports, Wilderness Society Says 84 Percent of Gas under Federal Land could be Developed**

<http://www.azstarnet.com/sn/hourlyupdate/241447.php>

## **Links**

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*This Week in Petroleum* from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

**Weekly Petroleum Status Report** from EIA

[http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil\\_gas/petroleum/data\\_publications/weekly\\_petroleum\\_status\\_report/wpsr.html](http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html)

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

**Natural Gas Weekly Update** from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

## ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

*Energy Assurance Daily* provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. EST. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:  
<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/index.aspx>.

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